

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device to be affixed to a desired article, and for
attaching one or more items to said device ~~thereto~~, comprising,
an extended post having a length extending between first and second ends of said
extended post, and at least one aperture running transversely therethrough said length;
5 said post operatively connected to a shoulder at said first end, whereby said
shoulder includes ~~device is affixed to a desired article having~~ (i) through (iii) following:
(i) an interior side facing toward an interior volume defined substantially by
said desired article, said interior volume adapted for placing one or more
body portions or objects therein, ~~and~~
10 (ii) an exterior side facing substantially away from the interior volume,
wherein said shoulder is positioned on said interior side, and said extended
post extends through an opening in said desired article so that ~~includes at~~
~~least~~ an outwardly extending portion of said extended post that extends
outwardly from said exterior side, and said outwardly extending portion
15 includes said aperture, and wherein said opening has an enclosed perimeter
of said desired article that fully closes about said post; and
(iii) an extent traverse to said length that is effective for preventing said
shoulder from extending through said opening;
wherein at least (a) and (b) following are attached to each other prior to said
20 device being affixed to the desired article: (a) said shoulder, and (b) said first end of said
post wherein said first end has a traverse extent to said length, wherein said traverse
extent is at least as large as any other post extent that is perpendicular to said length;
wherein said shoulder and said first end remain attached to each other throughout
an affixing of said device to the desired article;
25 wherein said extended post includes a first portion within the opening, said first
portion connecting between at least a portion of said shoulder and said outwardly
extending portion, for providing support to said device on said desired article, wherein a

Application No. 09/802,852

user of said device can attach different items to said device by inserting, for each of said different items, a corresponding attachment in said aperture provided in said outwardly
30 extending portion;

~~wherein said device is removed from said desired article by removing said attachment from said aperture.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The device as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising a washer that fits over said post and is slidable between said desired article and said second end, wherein said washer is for assisting in securing said device to said desired article, said article selected from the group consisting of a garment, a belt, a
5 purse, and luggage.

3. (Original) The device of Claim 1 wherein said post and said shoulder are threadedly connected to each other.

4. (Original) The device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said post has only one aperture therethrough.

5. (Original) The device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said at least one aperture is a double counter sunk hole.

6. (Original) The device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said post and said shoulder are connected to each other at a 90 degree angle.

7. (Original) The device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said post and said shoulder are connected to each other with a ball and socket connection.

8. (Currently Amended) The device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein an entirety of said post, and said shoulder are continuously ~~integral with~~ fixedly attached to each other prior to said device being affixed to said desired article, throughout an affixing of said device to said desired article, and independently of whether said device is affixed to said desired article or not.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A device to be affixed to a desired article, and for attaching one or more items to said device ~~thereto~~, wherein the desired article has (i) and (ii) following:

(i) an interior side facing toward an interior volume defined substantially by said desired article, said interior volume adapted for placing one or more body portions or objects therein, and

(ii) an exterior side facing substantially away from the interior volume, comprising:

an extended post having a length extending between first and second ends of said extended post, and at least one aperture running transversely of said length;

a shoulder having first and second surfaces, and fixedly attached to said post substantially at said first end, wherein said post includes a portion that extends outwardly from at least said first surface and said aperture is on said outwardly extending portion of said post;

wherein at least (1) and (2) following are attached to each other prior to and throughout said device being affixed to the desired article: (1) at least an entirety of said post from said first end to approximately said aperture, and (2) said shoulder;

a contact portion for contacting the desired article for thereby supporting said device on said desired article, said contact portion including at least part of said shoulder

20 ~~first surface~~ for contacting said desired article when said device is supported on said desired article;

wherein a user can reversibly attach different items to said device by inserting, for each of said different items, a corresponding attachment in said aperture;

25 wherein said desired article supports said device by requiring one of (a) and (b) following to hold:

(a) said contact portion includes a portion of said length extending through an opening from a portion of the interior side to a portion of the exterior side further from said interior volume, ~~said desired article~~ wherein said desired article supports said device, regardless of an orientation of said desired article about said length, ~~wherein said device is removed from said desired article by removing said attachment from said aperture and~~
30 wherein said extended post does not include an extent that is expanded in a direction traverse to said length wherein such an expanded extent substantially prevents movement of said opening along said length from said shoulder to substantially said aperture;

(b) said contact portion includes opposing interior sides ~~of~~ to said shoulder,
35 wherein said interior sides are between said first and second surfaces and substantially define an enclosure for contacting a front and back of a button of said desired article so that the device is supported on the desired article by the button such that a portion of the desired article is provided between said first side and said second side for securing said device to the desired article, wherein said first and second sides face away from ~~confront~~
40 one another ~~and wherein removal of said post from said shoulder damages said device.~~

11. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 10, wherein said contact portion includes a portion of said length extending through said desired article wherein said article supports said device regardless of an orientation of said desired article about said length.

12. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 10, wherein ~~said contact portion includes said portion of said second surface such that a portion of desired article is provided between said portion of said first surface and said portion of said second surface for securing said device to the desired article, wherein said first and second surfaces confront one another and wherein~~ removal of said post from said shoulder damages said device.

13. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 10, wherein said desired article includes one of: a garment, a belt, a purse, and luggage.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 10, wherein the desired article includes one of: jeans, a pair of pants, and an overall.

16. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 1, wherein said article includes a flexible portion that is adapted to conform to the user's body.

17. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein said desired article includes at least one extent that is greater than a largest extent of said shoulder.

18. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein said first portion includes an extent of said post extending through said desired article such that said device is supported on said desired article independently of an orientation of said extent of said post relative to said desired article.

19. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 1, wherein the desired article includes one of: jeans, a pair of pants, and an overall.

20. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 1, wherein said first portion is used to support said device on said desired article.

21. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 10, wherein said desired article is portable with the user and includes at least a portion which conforms to a part of the user's body contacting said desired article.

22. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 10, wherein said ~~interior first and second~~ surfaces are spaced apart an effective amount for allowing the button to slide therebetween and thereby support the device on the desired article ~~securing said device to a portion of a desired article provided between said first and second surfaces.~~

23. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 1, wherein said extended post is rigid with said aperture being in a fixed orientation relative to said shoulder.

24. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 1, wherein said desired article includes a pair of jeans.

25. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein said device further includes a washer provided on said extended post between said first portion and said aperture, wherein said washer is slidable between said desired article and said second end.

26. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 10, wherein said portion of said length has a washer provided thereon, said washer between the desired article and said aperture, wherein said washer is not integral with said extended post so that said device can be detached from the desired article by removing said washer and said

- 5 attachment from said extended post, and wherein said washer is slidable between said desired article and said second end.

27. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 10, wherein there is no component between said ~~shoulder portion of said length~~ and said aperture for providing a clamping pressure for securing said device to ~~on a portion of~~ the desired article.

28. (Previously Added) The device of Claim 1, wherein said extended post extends through an opening in a fabric when said device is attached to the desired article.

29. (New) The device of Claim 1, wherein said extended post supports said device on said desired article independently of what portion of said length, between said shoulder and said aperture, contacts the desired article.

30. (New) The device of Claim 1, wherein said extended post includes an entire exterior shape that does not prevent said device from being removed from the opening by sliding said extended post in a direction from said shoulder towards the second end.

31. (New) The device of Claim 30, wherein said entire exterior shape has, throughout the length between said aperture and said shoulder, a substantially uniform cross sectional shape.

32. (New) The device of Claim 31, wherein said entire exterior shape is, throughout the length between said aperture and said shoulder, a cylinder.

33. (New) The device of Claim 30, wherein said entire exterior shape has, throughout the length polygonal cross section.

34. (New) The device of Claim 30, wherein when at least one corresponding attachment is engaged with said aperture, said at least one corresponding attachment has at least one extent that has an extent in a direction traverse to said length, wherein said at least one extent is larger than the uniform cross sectional shape in the same direction.

35. (New) The device of Claim 1, wherein said extended post loosely engages, along said length, said opening for supporting the device on the desired article.

36. (New) The device of Claim 10, wherein (a) holds.

37. (New) The device of Claim 10, wherein (b) holds.

38. (New) The device of Claim 10, wherein the extended post is rigid throughout its length.

39. (New) The device of Claim 10, wherein (a) holds and said shoulder has an extent traverse to said length that is effective for preventing said shoulder from extending through said opening, and said device does not include an extent along said length between said shoulder and substantially said aperture that prevents movement of said
5 device along said length.

40. (New) The device of Claim 10, wherein said post and shoulder are fixedly attached to each other when either one of said post and shoulder are affixed to the desired article.

41. (New) The device of Claim 10, wherein said post and shoulder are fixedly attached to each other throughout a process of removal of the device from the desired article.

42. (New) The device of Claim 41, wherein after the removal of said device from said desired article, said post and shoulder are fixedly attached to each other for being affixed back to the desired article by substantially only reinserting said extended post into the opening and reattaching an item in said aperture.

43. (New) The device of Claim 41, wherein said post and shoulder are fixedly attached to each other during an attachment of the device to an additional desired article once said device is removed from the desired article, wherein the additional desired article is included in one of the following categories that is different from a category that includes the desired article, said categories being: garments, belts, luggage, purses, backpacks, and luggage.

44. (New) The device of Claim 10, wherein said shoulder has at least one extent traverse to said length that is greater than an adjacent extent of said opening, and for an entire extent of said device between said shoulder and said second end, said device fits within said opening for sliding therethrough.

45. (New) A method for attaching one or more items to a desired article, comprising:

providing a device to attach to the desired article, wherein said desired article has:
(i) an interior side facing toward an interior volume defined substantially by said desired article, said interior volume adapted for placing one or more body portions or objects therein, (ii) an exterior side facing substantially away from the interior volume, and (iii) an article hole from the interior side to the exterior side;

wherein said device includes (a) and (b) following:

10 (a) an extended post having a length with first and second ends terminating said length, and said extended post having at least one post aperture running transversely through said length; and

 (b) a shoulder operatively connected to said post at said first end, wherein said shoulder has an extent traverse to the length that does not fit through the article hole;

15 wherein said extended post includes an outwardly extending portion extending along said length, said outwardly extending portion including at least an entire extent of said post: (1) from, and including, said post aperture, and (2) to said second end, wherein an entire exterior of said outwardly extending portion fits through the hole;

 wherein said extended post also includes a first portion extending between at least 20 a portion of said shoulder and said outwardly extending portion, for providing support to said device on said desired article when a step of fitting said outwardly extending portion through said hole is performed;

 attaching at least one item through said post aperture, said item restricting a disengagement of said device from the desired article; and

25 removing said device from said desired article by removing said at least one item from said post aperture.

46. (New) The method of Claim 45, further including supporting said device on said desired article independently of what portion of said length, between said shoulder and said aperture, contacts the desired article.

47. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein said step of removing includes sliding said extended post in a direction from said shoulder towards the second end.

48. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein said step of attaching includes engaging the at least one item, wherein the at least one item has at least one extent in a direction traverse to said length, wherein said at least one extent is larger than the opening in the same direction.

49. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein said extended post loosely engages, along said length, said opening for supporting the device on the desired article.

50. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein the extended post is rigid throughout its length.

51. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein said shoulder has an extent traverse to said length that is effective for preventing said shoulder from extending through said opening, and said device does not include an extent along said length between said shoulder and substantially said aperture that prevents movement of said
5 device along said length.

52. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein said post and shoulder are fixedly attached to each other throughout said step of fitting.

53. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein said step of removing includes detaching said post and shoulder as a single unit from said desired article.

54. (New) The device of Claim 45, a further step, after said removing step, of reattaching said device to said desired article, wherein said post and shoulder are reattached as a single unit to the desired article by substantially only performing a step of reinserting said extended post into the opening and reattaching an item in said aperture.

55. (New) The device of Claim 45, further including a step of attaching said device to an additional desired article once said device is removed from the desired article, wherein the additional desired article is included in one of the following categories that is different from a category that includes the desired article, said categories
5 being: garments, belts, luggage, purses, backpacks, and luggage;

wherein a further step of fitting said outwardly extending portion through a hole in said additional desired article is performed.

56. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein said shoulder has at least one extent traverse to said length that is greater than an adjacent extent of said opening, and for an entire extent of said device between said shoulder and said second end, said device fits within said opening for sliding therethrough.

57. (New) An apparatus having a desired article and an attachment device for attaching and detaching one or more items to the desired article, comprising:

a desired article having (1) and (2) following:

5 (1) an interior side facing toward an interior volume defined substantially by said desired article, said interior volume adapted for placing one or more body portions or objects therein, and

(2) an exterior side facing substantially away from the interior volume;

an attachment device for attaching one or more items to said desired article,

wherein said attachment device includes (3) through (5) following:

10 (3) an extended post having a length extending between first and second ends of said extended post;

(4) at least one aperture running transversely of said length, wherein a user can reversibly attach different items to said attachment device by inserting, for each of said different items, a corresponding attaching component
15 attachment in said aperture; and

- 20 (5) a shoulder having first and second surfaces, wherein said first and second sides face away from one another, wherein said first surface is attached to said post substantially at said first end, and said post extends outwardly from said first surface, and said aperture is on an outwardly extending portion of said post that extends away from said first surface;
- wherein said desired article supports said attachment device regardless of an orientation of said desired article about said length;
- wherein said desired article supports said attachment device by requiring one of the criteria (8) and (9) following to hold:
- 25 (8) a portion of said length extends through a hole from a portion of the interior side to a portion of the exterior side further away from said interior volume than the portion of the interior side, and said extended post does not include an extent that is expanded in a direction traverse to said length wherein such an expanded extent substantially prevents movement
- 30 of said hole along said length from said shoulder to said second end, and wherein said shoulder has an extent traverse to said length that is effective for preventing said shoulder from extending through said hole; and
- (9) said shoulder includes opposing interior sides, wherein said interior sides are strictly between said first and second surfaces, wherein said interior
- 35 side substantially define an enclosure for contacting a front and back of a button of said desired article so that the attachment device is supported on the desired article by the button.

58. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said shoulder and said post are fixedly attached to one another and can not be separated without damaging said attachment device.

59. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said shoulder and said post are attached to one another via a ball and socket connection.

60. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said shoulder and said post are attached to one another by said first end being threadably received in mating threads of said shoulder.

61. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said criteria (8) holds, and said attachment device is removed from said desired article by moving said attachment device in a direction relative to said desired article so that said hole disengages from said post.

62. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said criteria (8) holds, and said attachment device is removable from said desired article, wherein after removal of said attachment device, said attachment device is reattachable to said desired article by reinsertion into said hole.

63. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said shoulder and said post remain attached to one another throughout an affixing of said attachment device to said desired article.

64. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said extended post loosely engages, along said length, said hole for supporting said attachment device on said desired article.

65. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said post and said shoulder are detached from said desired article as a single unit.

66. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said shoulder and a largest extent of said post traverse to said length are attached to each other prior to said attachment device being affixed to the desired article, and said post and shoulder remain attached to each other independently of said attachment device being affixed to the
5 desired article or not.

67. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein at least (a) and (b) following are attached to each other prior to said attachment device being affixed to the desired article: (a) said shoulder, and (b) a traverse extent of said post that is substantially perpendicular to said length such that said traverse extent is at least as large as any other
5 post extent that is perpendicular to said length, and wherein said shoulder and said traverse extent remain attached independently of whether said attachment device is affixed to said desired article or not.

68. (New) The device of Claim 1, wherein said extended post does not include an extent that is expanded in a direction traverse to said length such that said expanded extent prevents movement of the opening along said length, from said shoulder to substantially said second end.

69. (New) The device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein an entirety of said post from at least said first end to said at least one traverse extent are fixedly attached to each other both prior to said device being affixed to said desired article, and throughout an affixing of said device to said desired article.

70. (New) An apparatus having a desired article and an attachment device for attaching and detaching one or more items to the desired article, comprising:
a desired article having (1) and (2) following:

- 5 (1) an interior side facing toward an interior volume defined substantially by
said desired article, said interior volume adapted for placing one or more
body portions or objects therein, and
- (2) an exterior side facing substantially away from the interior volume;
- (3) an opening in said desired article, wherein said opening has an enclosed
perimeter of said desired article;
- 10 an extended post having a length extending between first and second ends of said
extended post, and at least one aperture running transversely therethrough said length;
said post operatively connected to a shoulder at substantially said first end,
whereby said shoulder includes (i) through (iii) following:
- 15 (i) an interior side facing toward an interior volume defined substantially by
said desired article, said interior volume adapted for placing one or more
body portions or objects therein,
- (ii) an exterior side facing substantially away from the interior volume,
wherein said shoulder is positioned on said interior side, and
- (iii) an extent traverse to said length that is effective for preventing said
20 shoulder from extending through said opening;
- wherein said extended post extends through said opening so that said perimeter
closes about said post, wherein an outwardly extending portion of said extended post
extends outwardly from said exterior side, and said outwardly extending portion includes
said aperture;
- 25 wherein there is no component between said shoulder and said aperture for
providing a clamping pressure for securing said device, in a fixed position, to the desired
article;
- wherein said extended post includes a first portion within the opening, said first
portion connecting between at least a portion of said shoulder and said outwardly
30 extending portion, for providing support to said device on said desired article, wherein a
user of said device can attach different items to said device by inserting, for each of said

different items, a corresponding attachment in said aperture provided in said outwardly extending portion.

71. (New) A device to be affixed to a desired article, and for attaching one or more items to said device, comprising,

an extended post having a length extending between first and second ends of said extended post, and at least one aperture running transversely therethrough said length;

5 said post operatively connected to a shoulder at said first end, whereby said shoulder includes (i) through (iii) following:

(i) an interior side facing toward an interior volume defined substantially by said desired article, said interior volume adapted for placing one or more body portions or objects therein,

10 (ii) an exterior side facing substantially away from the interior volume, wherein said shoulder is positioned on said interior side, and said extended post extends through an opening in said desired article so that an outwardly extending portion of said extended post extends outwardly from said exterior side, and said outwardly extending portion includes said
15 aperture, and wherein said opening has an enclosed perimeter of said desired article that closes about said post; and

(iii) an extent traverse to said length that is effective for preventing said shoulder from extending through said opening;

20 wherein at least (a) and (b) following are attached to each other prior to said device being affixed to the desired article: (a) said shoulder, and (b) at least one traverse extent of said post that is substantially perpendicular to said length such that said traverse extent is at least as large as any other post extent that is perpendicular to said length;

wherein said shoulder and said traverse extent remain attached to each other throughout an affixing of said device to the desired article;

25 wherein said extended post includes a first portion within the opening, said first
portion connecting between at least a portion of said shoulder and said outwardly
extending portion, for providing support to said device on said desired article, wherein a
user of said device can attach different items to said device by inserting, for each of said
different items, a corresponding attachment in said aperture provided in said outwardly
30 extending portion.